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Art Unit: 3746

03171-URS

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

FIG. 5 is amended to include a legend --Prior Art-- as shown in the attached drawing.

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In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by prior art Figure 5, claims 1 and 3 are rejected under U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Huang et al., claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wu, and claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang et al.

In response to the office action, claims 1- 3 are cancelled and new claims 4-6 are presented to clearly define the invention in a patentable way to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a). More specifically, the new independent claim 4 now includes said bottom wall having a tapped hole for receiving said stud and the limitations that said air cylinder is receivable within said handgrip through said opening and said stud is locked into said tapped hole from an interior side of said bottom wall when said inflator is not in use, and said handgrip forms an extension of said shaft by locking said stud into said tapped hole from an exterior side of said bottom wall when said inflator is in use. None of the cited prior arts has taught, suggested or anticipated such limitations. Neither does the prior art FIG. 5 have shown such features.

Huang et al. (6,817,060) teach an inflator having an air cylinder and a handgrip. The shaft of the air cylinder is pivotally locked on the handgrip by means of a rotation body formed at the end of the shaft, pin holes formed on the side wall of the handgrip and the rotation body, and a pin passing through the pin holes. A channel is provided

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on the handgrip so that the handgrip can be rotated around the rotation body to form an extension of the shaft. It should be noted that the tapped hole formed on the bottom wall of the handgrip is not disclosed by Huang et al., the shaft of Huang et al. is not locked and received in the tapped hole from an interior side or an exterior side of the bottom wall.

In the office action, the examiner states that Huang (6,817,060) teaches that the shaft has a cross section and a through hole shaped corresponding to the cross section of the shaft is formed in a terminal wall of the cylinder to permit the shaft to move axially only, not rotationally in the through hole, when the shaft extends through the through hole. Applicant respectfully contends that the statement is unwarranted because Huang (6,817,060) has no such teaching throughout the whole disclosure. Huang (6,817,060) never suggests that the shaft can not move rotationally.

Wu discloses a bicycle inflator includes a cylinder having a cap fixedly received in a first end and an end member fixedly received in a second end of the cylinder. Similarly to the art of Huang et al. (6,817,060), the piston rod of the cylinder is pivotally connected on the handgrip. Throughout the disclosure of Wu, there is no teaching of a tapped hole formed on the bottom wall for receiving the piston from either interior or exterior side.

In accordance with the above comparison, it can be seen that neither Huang et al. (6,817,060) nor Wu has disclosed, anticipated or suggested the subject matter of the instant invention which is set forth in the new claim 4. It is also worth mentioning that

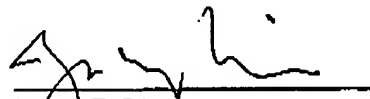
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the handgrip as defined in claim 4 is removably attached to the air cylinder. None of the cited prior arts has a removable handgrip. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that new claim 4 has overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and should be allowable. By virtue of dependency, the dependent claims 5 and 6 should also be allowable.

From the foregoing discussion, it is evident that the instant invention differs from the cited prior arts. The physical difference results in different effects and is not obvious. New claims 4-6 are now in full condition for allowance. The specification has been amended to correct a few editorial and grammatical errors. FIG. 5 has been amended to include a legend --Prior Art--. The attached drawing sheet with changes annotated is submitted for approval. Formal drawings will be submitted by post office mail after the application is allowed to ensure adequate quality for patent publication. Prompt and favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Annotated sheet

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